6 January 2016 - Unsettled, wet weather is expected to continue into the weekend before the weather turns colder during next week. Overnight frosts, ice and some snow are likely

Through the remainder of this week and into the weekend the UK's weather will be controlled by low pressure systems running in from the Atlantic, bringing showers or longer spells of rain at times. Although colder than of late, temperatures will continue to be around or a little above what we'd expect for this time of year. The recent cold conditions in Northeastern Scotland will continue.

With further rain forecast in areas where the ground is already saturated after a record breaking December people should be aware that there is a continued risk of flooding.

Over the next 24-36 hours a band of heavy rain will spread eastwards across the UK. Rain will arrive in southwest England this evening where a yellow 'be aware' rainfall warning has been issued for accumulations of 15-25 mm quite widely and locally 30-40 mm over south facing hills falling in around six hours. This brings the likelihood of some flooding.

The rain then spreads eastwards overnight with yellow 'be aware' rainfall warnings also in place for Northern Ireland with 15-30 mm of rain likely quite widely during a six to nine hour period with perhaps 40 mm over high ground.

On Thursday the attention moves to eastern Scotland and northeast England. An Amber 'be prepared' weather warning for rainfall has been issued for eastern parts of Scotland for Thursday as the band of rain becomes slow moving over the area with hill snow also expected. 30-50mm of rain is expected widely with as much as 60mm over high ground.

A yellow 'be aware' rainfall warning is in place for Thursday across parts of northeast England and southeast Scotland. Accumulations of 10-20 mm are possible quite widely with perhaps over 30mm over high ground.

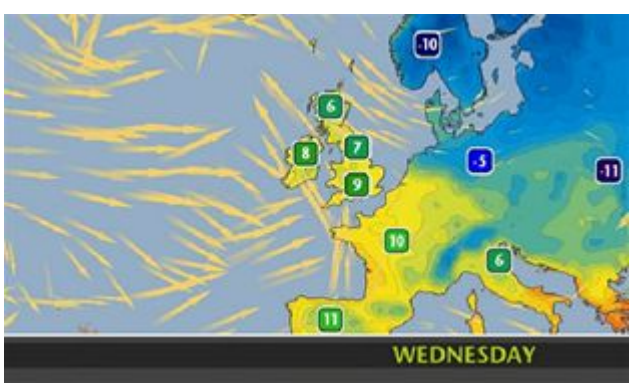
Chief Meteorologist Paul Gundersen said: "Further heavy and prolonged rain is expected on Thursday across much of eastern Scotland. Given the recent exceptionally wet weather with high river levels and saturated ground, please be prepared for further surface water and river flooding as well as disruption to transport."

Keep up to date with the weather for your area using our forecast pages and National Severe Weather Warnings.

As we move through next week colder conditions in the north are expected to spread southwards resulting in a spell of colder and generally drier weather after the recent wet spell. A north or northwesterly airflow will push arctic air across the UK bringing weather fairly typical for January.

This arctic maritime airmass is likely to bring fairly bright weather with a mixture of sunshine and showers. These showers are increasingly likely to fall as sleet or snow to low levels across the north of the UK. There is also a risk of some sleet and snow in the south, although many areas here are likely to be dry with some sunshine for much of the time.

By the middle of next week daytime temperatures are likely to be in the range of 0-5 °C. Overnight, frost and ice can be expected as temperatures fall below freezing. This change in temperature will be particularly noticeable given the recent mild weather.



Today's maximum temperatures

Next week's maximum temperatures

There is some uncertainty as to how far south the very cold air will extend and how many places will see showers, but confidence in these details should increase over the coming days. Check out our 7 day forecast pages to see what weather you will see in your area next week.

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